

keyboard, and a second arm for upwardly moving a rear-end portion of the display. Hence, it is possible to provide a work station which can provide a state such that a keyboard and a touch panel on a display can be easily simultaneously used, and a state such that a display surface can be easily seen by standing the display behind the keyboard by a simple operation. In addition, the work station is also configured such that the front-end portion of the display is held at a position behind the operational surface of the keyboard by further rotating the first arm, and the display is supported at an upright position by the second arm. Hence, it is possible to provide a work station which can provide a state such that a keyboard and a touch panel on a display can be easily simultaneously used, and a state such that a display surface can be easily seen by standing the display behind the keyboard by a simple operation, as in the conventional approach.

What is claimed is:

1. An information processing apparatus support system, comprising:

display unit supporting means for an information display unit for displaying information, and a touch panel for entering information, said display unit supporting means having a frame permanently fixed to said display unit supporting means;

a keyboard unit for entering information; and

a connecting arm for connecting said display unit supporting means and said keyboard unit, said connecting arm being pivotally connected at one end thereof to the lower end of said display unit supporting means and pivotally connected at the other end to a fixed location on said keyboard unit;

the length of said connecting arm and the location of its pivot connection to said keyboard unit being such that said arm may swing about said pivot connection from a first position, where said frame is superimposed on said keyboard unit with said touch panel facing toward said keyboard unit, to a second position, where said frame is superimposed on said keyboard unit, with said touch panel facing away from said keyboard unit, and such that when said connecting arm is in the first position, the frame may pivot about said one end of said connecting arm to expose said touch panel and said keyboard unit.

2. An information processing apparatus support system according to claim 1, wherein said connecting arm can be held at at least two positions relative to said keyboard unit.

3. An information processing apparatus support system according to claim 1, wherein the information display unit is overlaid by the touch panel.

4. An information processing apparatus support system according to claim 1, wherein the information display unit is either facing said keyboard unit, or facing away from said keyboard unit.

5. An information processing apparatus support system according to claim 1, wherein said touch panel is operable

to enter coordinate information when the display unit is facing away from said keyboard unit.

6. An information processing apparatus support system according to claim 1, wherein the information display unit is attached to said keyboard unit when the information display unit is facing said keyboard unit.

7. An information processing apparatus support system according to claim 1, wherein releasable latches are provided to secure said connecting arm to said keyboard unit at each of said first and said positions of its said one end.

8. An information processing apparatus support system according to claim 7, wherein said latches comprise at least one slot in said connecting arm and holding hooks in said keyboard unit.

9. An information processing apparatus support system according to claim 8, wherein said holding hooks are spring biased out from said keyboard unit toward said connecting arm.

10. An information processing apparatus support system comprising:

a main body in which a keyboard unit for entering information is arranged at a front portion;

a display unit permanently fixed in a frame having an information display for displaying information, and a touch panel for entering information; and

a display unit supporting arm pivotally connected at one end thereof to said frame near the lower end of said display unit supporting means and pivotally connected at the other end to a fixed location on said keyboard unit;

the length of said supporting arm and the location of its pivot connection to said keyboard unit being such that said arm may swing about said pivot connection from a first position, where said frame is superimposed on said keyboard unit with said touch panel facing toward said keyboard unit, to a second position, where said frame is superimposed on said keyboard unit, with said touch panel facing away from said keyboard unit, and such that when said supporting arm is in the first position, the frame may pivot about said one end of said connecting arm to expose said touch panel and said keyboard unit.

11. An information processing apparatus support system according to claim 10, wherein the information display unit faces the keyboard unit.

12. An information processing apparatus support system according to claim 10, wherein the touch panel is operable to enter coordinate information when the display unit faces away from the keyboard unit.

13. An information processing apparatus support system according to claim 10, wherein the information display unit is attached to the keyboard unit when the information display unit faces the keyboard unit.

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